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Voting Procedure for NELAC 8

GENERAL INFORMATION

The 2002 NELAC Annual Meeting provides an opportunity to vote on the standards. The standing committees will present their proposed agendas during the plenary session Thursday morning, July 11th.

Each committee will have an opportunity to finalize its voting agenda from Tuesday July 9th through Thursday morning, July 11th, during the concurrent working sessions. The final proposed standards and voting agendas will reflect comments from the working session participants. Thus, changes to the proposed standards, as posted on the Internet, may occur during the working sessions. During the final plenary session these changes will be identified, the reason for the change will be outlined, and hard copies of the modified sections will be distributed by the end of the day.

Voting will begin Friday morning, July 12th. Both Contributors and Voting Members can participate in the discussion periods during the voting session. However, only Voting Members can cast votes on the standards.

VOTING PROCESS

Discussion Period

The voting session will be led by the NELAC Chair. The chair from each proposing committee will be available to respond to questions and comments on the voting items. There will be a limited amount of time to vote on each issue. Therefore, it is necessary to observe the following procedures:

1. Once a motion is made there will be a specified time to discuss each issue. The amount of time will vary, depending on the total number of voting issues per committee.
2. Comments during the discussion period will be limited to one per individual per voting issue, with the following exception:
 - a. Time permitting, additional comments can be made by individuals who have previously made comments on the same voting issue.



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Voting Issues

Three voting alternatives can be used to vote on the standards. A voting issue consists of:

1. An entire standard
2. Grouped sections of a standard, or
3. Individual sections of a standard

A Voting Member, with the concurrence of 10 other Voting Members, may request that the vote be taken on individual sections, rather than an entire standard or rather than grouped sections. In order to conserve time during the voting session, it is preferable that voting issues be presented as the entire standard or by grouped sections.

Floor Amendments

Any standard proposed for a vote can be amended by a Voting Member. Any amendment from the floor must pass in both Houses by a two-thirds majority.

Voting

At the conclusion of the discussion for each voting item, the members of each House (Representatives and Delegates) will cast their votes simultaneously. Voting is by a show of hands. The tally for the House of Representatives will reflect the vote of the individual Representative's organization.

The voting issue must pass by a simple majority, in the House of Representatives and in the House of Delegates, to be accepted. The voting issue fails if it does not pass in both Houses.

Disposition of Failed Voting Items

If the original or amended voting issue fails:

1. The proposing committee may return the voting issue to the committee process for comment, review, and re-proposal;
2. The Chair may consider a new motion on the same voting issue;
3. The proposing committee may table the voting issue and resubmit it the following year, or;
4. The proposing committee may drop the voting issue.